

NAZIS FALL

Architects of Victory—and Peace



A WINNING TEAM met at Yalta, a trio of men who led a world of free peoples through history's most bitter conflict for permanent peace. It was their last meeting. Franklin D. Roosevelt fell in that conflict, but not before he, together with Marshal Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill, had already put his name to the master plan for the crushing of Germany and the final offensive against Japan. In the peace to come, his name will be deeply engraved.

Message from the Commanding Officer

The news that greets us today must not be regarded as a long-awaited signal for great rejoicing. Our watchword should be, rather, that of Thanksgiving.

THANKFULNESS THAT PEACE again will soon return to the peoples of Europe and that the long years of Nazi enslavement and oppression are at an end.

THANKFULNESS THAT WE are fully aware of the great task that still lies ahead in the Pacific and that our people are willing to accept, further, the agonies of war in order to reap the benefit of a world completely bereft of a warlike Japan.

THANKFULNESS THAT WE have the medical skill and means to return wounded veterans to full and normal life, or to assure them that everything possible is being done to reduce their handicaps and enable them to return to their home communities more confident of their futures.

Those of us in the Medical Department face a tremendous task. The part that each of us at McGuire plays in accomplishing this mission cannot be minimized. The ward men, the laundry workers, the clerks, the janitors—in fact every job on the post—contributes in some vital way to assuring that patients will lack nothing.

This is a great day in the world's fight for peace. The fall of Japan will mark another. In our hearts let us make certain that we have done our share. Ours will be an empty peace if we fail those who seek our aid.

COLONEL P. E. DUGGINS,
Commanding.



PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN never flinched when suddenly called upon to lead America through the climax of its greatest battle. Upon him falls the job of fashioning the sword which will strike the death blow to Japanese military power. President Truman has firmly committed himself to the principles to insure lasting peace so closely identified with his predecessor.

BULLETIN!

REIMS, FRANCE, MAY 7.—GERMANY SURRENDERED UNCONDITIONALLY TO THE WESTERN ALLIES AND RUSSIA AT 2:41 A. M. TODAY (FRENCH TIME—8:41 P. M. EASTERN WAR TIME SUNDAY) ACCORDING TO AN ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH.

The surrender took place at a little red school house which is the headquarters of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The surrender which brought the war in Europe to a formal end after five years, eight months and six days of bloodshed and destruction was signed for Germany by Colonel-General Gustav-Hodt, new chief-of-staff of the German army.

It was signed for the Supreme Allied command by Lieutenant-General Walter Bedell Smith, chief-of-staff for General Eisenhower. It was also signed by General Ivan Susloparoff for Russia and by General Francois Sevez of France.

The surrender was announced officially, reports the Associated Press, after German broadcasts told the German people that Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz had ordered the capitulation of all fighting forces and called off the U-boat war.

General Eisenhower was not present at the signing, but immediately afterward Jodl and his fellow-delegate, General-Admiral Hans Georg Friedeburg, were received by the supreme commander.

McGuire Marks V-E Day With Interfaith Service

Announcement of V-E Day will be observed at McGuire today as "a day of Thanksgiving and as a day of rededication to the completion of our mission" on the other side of the world, according to announcement by Colonel P. E. Duggins, commanding officer.

All personnel of the hospital were notified in the announcement that today will be a regular work day, dedicated to the mammoth task of defeating Japan—a task still ahead of us.

"Normal hospital services and functions must not be interrupted," Colonel Duggins declared.

All post military personnel and patients, except those authorized to live off the post, must remain in the hospital tonight. Enlisted personnel living off the post must obtain special passes from the detachment office and are directed not to go into the city, but to remain at their homes.

Victory over the Nazi war machine will not go unobserved on the post, however. An inter-faith service will be held for all post personnel as well as patients able to attend in front of the Administration Building. Colonel P. E. Duggins, commanding officer will address the assemblage. Prayer will be offered by Chaplain O. D. Swank, post chaplain, and Sgt. George Toth who saw action in the Pacific Theater of Operations will tell why he knows the war is far from over. Appropriate music will be furnished by the McGuire Band. The service will be broadcast over WRVA.

A dance for members of the detachment and patient personnel will start at 8 p.m. at the gymnasium. Civilian personnel are invited to stay and transportation home will be provided after the dance. Hostesses will be present and wives of enlisted men are invited to attend. The convalescent suit is the authorized uniform for patients.

Beer and soft drinks will be served.

Games and other entertainment for ambulatory patients will be provided at the Red Cross Auditorium during the afternoon and evening and movies and other entertainment will be given in the wards throughout the entire day.

Although mess will be served in all mess halls at regular hours, the post exchange soda fountain will remain open until 9 p.m. and the branch PX in the detachment day-room will operate until midnight.

Movie to Publicize Army's Troop Policy After V-E Day

To explain to military personnel and civilians the Army's plan for redeployment and readjustment of troops now that German military power has bitten the dust, a War Department motion picture, "Two Down and One to Go," will be shown to McGuire patients and personnel in the next few days.

The showing is in line with the War Department's desire that fullest possible publicity be given the carefully-laid post-VE Day blueprint.

The film will be featured in civilian theaters in addition to its showing before all army personnel both in the United States and all theaters of operations.

Japan's Doom Already Sealed As German Defeat Turns Attention to War in Pacific

Two down—only one to go.

That summed up the reactions of thousands of GIs to the news of the destruction of German military resistance and the occupation of that country by the Allies.

With the fall of Germany accomplished, GIs everywhere turned their attention to the Pacific and Asiatic Theaters, where the armed forces of the United States, aided by powerful Allies, are committed to the smashing of Japanese military power in the shortest possible time to make secure the most complete and significant victory in the history of warfare.

Even before the defeat of Germany, plans for the subjugation of Japan formulated at the Cairo conference and the two conferences in Quebec had been implemented by action. Before the last shot was fired on the western front, the movement of men, supplies and equipment to the Pacific from other theaters had begun.

Japan's doom thus was sealed many months before the Germans quit. The great U. S. naval and land victories in the Pacific (to which our Allies the Australians, New Zealanders, Dutch, Chinese and British also contributed) had demonstrated our ability to successfully wage war on two fronts over the longest supply lines of history. Faced now by the overwhelming might of the free world, Japan's situation is hopeless.

But, as GIs who have fought in the Pacific can attest, the Japs may be counted on to resist desperately—even though eventual defeat is certain—and much bloody fighting still lies ahead. Still, we have come a long way in five years of warfare—from the brink of disaster to the threshold of success.

How far we have come is forcefully brought home by a review of the war in Europe. The Axis just missed, by the slimmest of margins, the goal of world domination and enslavement.

Here's the box score on the European war:

1939

POLAND

Sept. 1—Germany invaded Poland to touch off the most titanic struggle of all time. Great Britain and France declared war three days later with most of the British dominions and colonies following suit.

Sept. 27—The German conquest of Poland was completed with the surrender of Warsaw.

1940

THE LOW COUNTRIES

May 10—The next eight months witnessed a deceptive lull, which led some to term the conflict a "phony war." The French waited behind the Maginot Line expecting the Germans to hurl themselves against its string of supposedly impregnable fortresses. But the Germans were preparing for a different kind of offensive, and on May 10 struck a series of quick blows against Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg. Holland fell in four days. Then the Nazis overwhelmed the great Belgian fortress of Eben Emael and drove across the Albert Canal near Maastricht. Other German forces seized the French fortress city of Sedan and headed for the channel, with fleets of motorcycles spreading fire and terror ahead of armored detachments.

BELGIUM

May 28—King Leopold announced the surrender of the 300,000-man Belgian Army. The capitulation placed British forces on the continent in an untenable position, and the evacuation from Dunkerque was begun. More than 900 warships, skiffs, tugs, motor launches and yachts rescued an army of 337,000, but practically all of its equipment was lost. The evacuation was completed by June 4.

FRANCE

June 6—With the British out of the way, Hitler turned his attention to the conquest of France. The Maginot Line—its northern flank exposed and vulnerable as the result of the conquest of the Low Countries—was quickly turned. On June 10, the French government evacuated Paris. Mussolini perpetrated his notorious "stab in the back" moving Italian troops into the border area of France and plunging Italy into her most disastrous war. On June 17 Marshal Petain took over the French government and announced "with a broken heart," that he had been compelled to ask Hitler "as one soldier to another," for an honorable armistice. One June 12, in the railway car where Marshal Foch dictated peace terms to Germany in 1918, France signed an armistice taking her out of the war. Hitler danced a victory jig.

ENGLAND

June-Sept.—Alone, but grimly determined to fight on, England prepared for invasion. Home Guards were hastily organized; hunting rifles, old tanks, World War I guns were hastily imported from America. Churchill vowed: "We will fight on the beaches and the landing grounds—in the fields, in the streets, on the hills. We will never surrender." With only 700 Spitfires and Hurricanes, the RAF pitted its strength against the entire German Air Force, estimated to contain at least 5000 front-line planes. The "Battle for Britain" had begun.

Oct. 28—Mussolini, taking an active part in the war, invaded Greece, expecting an easy conquest. But the heroic Greeks ambushed and slaughtered thousands of Italian troops, and launched a successful counter-invasion. Hitler eventually had to come to the rescue of the Italians. The Germans subjugated the country and drove the British from Thermopylae and Crete. Earlier, Hitler won Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary to the Axis, largely through military and economic pressure. An uprising in Yugoslavia balked his efforts to take over that country completely.

1941

AFRICA

July 1940 to February 1941—The British Navy, in a tragic prelude to the "Battle for Africa," attacked the French fleet to prevent warships of their former allies from falling into enemy hands. On August 6, 1940, Italian armies under Marshal Rudolfo Graziani, began the Axis offensive against Egypt with the invasion of British Somaliland. Successfully counter-attacking, Britain's Gen. Wavell chased the Italians back across the desert, freeing Ethiopia and destroying Mussolini's dream of a North African empire. But in February 1941, German motorized units under Field Marshal Erwin Rommel landed at Tripoli to begin the first of three major German offensives aimed at the conquest of North Africa, seizure of the Suez Canal and control of the southern shores of the Mediterranean. High point for the Germans was

Pearl Harbor Bombed -- United States Enters War

Dec. 7—With the Germans victorious everywhere, the Japs decided the time was ripe to strike. On this date—"A day which will live in infamy"—they loosed the treacherous attack at Pearl Harbor and on U. S., British and Dutch possessions in the Pacific. Catching us inadequately prepared Jap planes sank or damaged most of the battle line of the U. S. Pacific fleet. Hours after the attack, first Japan, then German and Italy declared war on this country. It looked like the low-point of the struggle for the forces of freedom, but, in reality, the Jap attack on Pearl Harbor sealed the doom of the Axis. At last the sleeping giant was roused and united.

U. S. and Allied military leaders decided immediately that the Jap attack was all part of one global war, and that Germany was the more dangerous enemy and must be defeated first. The fate of Germany as well as Japan thus was decided at Pearl Harbor because the cowardly attack turned on the spot into the unloosed a gigantic flood of American men, planes, machines, weapons and supplies against the Nazis.

Messenger of Hate



THE WORLD HAS HEARD ITS LAST of Adolf Hitler's message of hatred and subjugation which led his people and his brutal philosophy to the greatest military defeat ever known.

reached with the capture of the city of Tobruk on June 25, 1942. German columns were within 60 miles of Cairo when Field Marshal Sir L. Montgomery stopped them at El Alamein.

BATTLE FOR IN WON

May-June—The RAF won the air battle for Britain and began the campaign of the ultimate destruction of the Luftwaffe with the aid of the RAF bomber command, later to be joined by the U. S. Eighth Air Force. Plans were for strategic bombing of German aircraft plants, communications plants, centers of synthetic fuel and rubber production. This campaign culminated in the great daylight raiding the week of February 19-26, 1944, which destroyed German capacity to replace combat losses, a necessary prelude to invasion.

ATTACK ON RUSSIA

June 22—His plans to conquer England thwarted, Hitler turned east and loosed his armies against the Soviet Union. Joined by Finland, Romania, Bulgaria and Italy, he attacked along a 2,000 mile front from the Arctic to the Black Sea. German armies sliced through Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Karelia, Bessarabia, and the Ukraine, besieged Leningrad and captured Kharkov and reached the gates of Moscow.

In October, Hitler boasted before Moscow and that the Red Army stopped the winter began the first of a series of counter-offensives which each year grew more powerful. By December 1942, with the encirclement of the German Sixth Army at Stalingrad, the element and siege of Stalingrad was reached. The siege lasted until February 2, 1943, when the Soviets won one of the greatest victories of the war—the annihilation of German forces attempting to capture the city.

SUBMARINE ATTACK

January-November—The Japanese submarine menace was licked by the combined efforts of the U. S., Canadian and British fleets and the army and navy. Millions of tons of war materiel and millions of troops in the Pacific which had been converted to lend-Lease equipment and supplies were sped to the new front. The Pacific was being done, the Pacific was not neglected. Australia, New Guinea, the flow of men and materiel to the Pacific maintained.

WE INVADEN AFRICA

Nov. 7—Our troops went into action for the first time against the Germans with the aid of large U. S. and British forces under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in Morocco and Algeria.

A junction with Marshal Montgomery's forces pursuing Rommel from the east was effected in Tunisia, the Germans and Italians surrendered on May 12, 1943, ending victoriously the invasion of Sicily and Italy.

SICILY AND ITALY

July 9-Aug. 17—Sicily invaded and conquered by British, Canadian and American troops. On July 25, Gen. Pietro Badoglio ousted and arrested Mussolini and took over the government of Italy.

Sept. 3—The British Eighth Army, under Marshal Montgomery, invaded the European mainland for the first time with landings at Reggio Calabria, at the southwestern tip of the Italian peninsula. On the same day, representatives of the Italian government met with Gen. Eisenhower's representatives. On September 8, the U. S. Fifth Army, commanded by Gen. Mark Clark, landed at Salerno.

Dec. 3—His hopes for victory shattered, Hitler strove desperately to provoke the Allies into fighting among themselves. The Teheran Conference moved that last hope for a compromise or negotiated peace. President Roosevelt, Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill agreed on plans for winning the war quickly and setting the stage for the last battle. The Teheran agreement, symbol of unity, was a victory on a par with any won on the battlefield.

Jan. 24—The Allies in Italy established a new beachhead near Anzio, on the German flank, to force a diversion of enemy strength in the south. Meanwhile, overwhelming superiority in men, planes and equipment was built up, and on June 4 we entered Rome to find our first Axis Capital.

June 6—D-day. American, British and Canadian troops, with units from other United Nations, began the invasion of northern France to open the long-awaited "Second Front." The invasion, termed the most difficult military operation in history, was an unqualified success—we got there, we stayed there, and we did it at less cost than expected.

June 23—The Red Army opened a major offensive on the Eastern Front to coincide with the Anglo-American push from the west. Principal objectives were: (a) to knock Fin-

He Who Lives by the Sword . . .



BERLIN, GERMANY, ONCE BOASTFUL and threatening saw its arrogance dwindle beneath the hammering blows of Allied air might. Under this heap of rubble lies Germany's master plan for enslavement of the world.

. . . Shall Perish by the Sword



TOKYO, JAPAN, ORIENTAL COUNTERPART of once-thriving Berlin already sags today under the fateful weight of Allied bombs. Only unconditional surrender can save her from the fate of her European sister city.

land, Bulgaria and Romania out of the war (b) to cut off and destroy or force withdrawal of German troops in the Baltic states of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania (c) to increase the pressure on Germany from the East so that the Nazis could not move their forces between the two fronts (d) to set the stage for the smash into Germany itself. The Red Army's spring offensive carried to the Vistula river opposite Warsaw in central Poland.

June 14—The Allied landings in Northern France caused the Germans to loose their vaunted "secret weapon" against London and British coastal areas. The British, who stood up under the ordeal of the 1940-41 aerial blitz, again were subjected to terrific punishment. Between June 14, when the first V-1 rocket or "buzz bomb" came over, and July 6, 2752 persons were killed and more than 8000 wounded. At the peak of the attacks, the buzz bombs were destroying or damaging more than 17,000 British homes every 24 hours. But the secret weapon didn't achieve its purpose—to terrorize the English into the abandonment of "unconditional surrender" ultimatum. The invasion of France was pushed with new vigor.

June 27—While the British and Canadians held off the Germans at Caen and protected our flank, American First Army forces sealed the Normandy peninsula and on this date captured the port of Cherbourg. During the next few weeks, fierce German counterattacks were beaten off by Allied armies struggling to expand the invasion beachhead. By July 27, the invasion area was large enough to permit employment of armor. Spearheaded by hundreds of tanks and armored vehicles, Lt. Gen. G. S. Patton's Third Army scored the breakthrough at St. Lo and raced across the Brittany peninsula and deep into France. The British had taken Caen by July 9. By August 13, the German Seventh Army was trapped

When The Leaders Met

WHO	WHEN	WHERE	WHY
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	August 1941	At Sea	Draft Atlantic Charter.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	December 1941	Washington	Map global strategy, pledge no separate peace, outline declaration of United Nations.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	June 1942	Washington	Plan invasion of North Africa.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	January 1943	Casablanca	Decide to demand "unconditional surrender."
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	May 1943	Washington	Plan intensified drive on Japan, invasion of Sicily.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	August 1943	Quebec	Name Lord Mountbatten to Southeast Asia command, study global strategy.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	September 1943	Washington	Map closer cooperation with Russia.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL CHANG KAL-SHEK	November 1943	Cairo	Plan to strip Japan of half-century's conquests, pick Gen Eisenhower as invasion chief.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL STALIN	Nov.-Dec. 1943	Teheran	Plan 3-way blows to crush Hitler.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL INONU	December 1943	Cairo	Discuss Turkey's role.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL	September 1944	Quebec	Plan disposition of defeated Germany, advance Pacific strategy.
ROOSEVELT CHURCHILL STALIN	February 1945	Crimea	Map program for final defeat of Nazis and occupation of Germany after the war.

between Argentan and Falaise and forced to withdraw. Thousands of enemy prisoners were taken. One of Gen. Patton's columns turned east toward Paris and the Sigfried Line. By August 20, Patton's men had reached the Seine on both sides of Paris. In the French capital, resistance forces rose against their Nazi oppressors. Brig. Gen. Jacques Leclerc led French armored units into the city, and, after sporadic fighting, Paris was surrendered unconditionally by the Germans on August 25.

July 30—Following the disaster in France, a group of German officers attempted to overthrow the Nazis and seize control of the German Army in order to bring to an end a war they knew already was lost. Adolf Hitler was injured slightly by a bomb or mine planted in a room where he was conferring with subordinates. The coup failed and an iron control over all phases of German life was instituted, with Gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler placed in control of the army at home.

SOUTHERN FRANCE HIT

August 15—A new Allied Army—the 7th—landed in Southern France between Marseilles and Nice to liberate that portion of the country and join with the 3rd and 1st Armies and the British and Canadians for the assault on Germany itself. The new army consisted mostly of American troops shifted from Northern Italy.

August 23—Romania was knocked out of the war by the advancing Russians. King Michael ordered an end to resistance to the Allies and accepted their terms of unconditional surrender. Later, Romania declared war against the Germans.

Sept. 1—In Northern France, American troops pushed on to the Maginot Line. On this date, First Army patrols crossed into Belgium north of Sedan. Two days later Brussels was liberated. Traveling 225 miles from the Pas-de-Calais area in 4½ days, the British and Canadians rolled through Antwerp. The 1st Army reached the German frontier on a wide front through Belgium. On Sept. 15, U. S. troops occupied Maastricht, in Holland, first place in the Netherlands to be liberated. An airborne invasion of Holland, by British and Polish parachute forces in the area of Arnhem was successful—and costly—when the British 2nd Army was unable to reinforce the airborne troops.

Sept. 9—Bulgaria broke relations with and declared war on Germany under pressure from the Soviet Union which previously had ended a long period of friendship with the Axis satellite by announcing a state of war. Bulgaria already was at war with the U. S. and Britain. On this date, the Bulgarians asked the Soviets for an armistice. On Oct. 28, a similar armistice was concluded with Britain and the U. S.

Oct. 15—Admiral Nicholas Horthy, regent of Hungary, was deposed when he tried to take that country out of the war as an ally of the Germans and conclude peace terms with the Allies. Budapest was occupied by German troops.

Nov.-Dec. 1944—Having reached the Siegfried Line, Gen. Eisenhower prepared for an all-out smash into Germany. However, in a surprise move, Marshal von Rundstedt, who had assumed command of the German forces in the west, opened a powerful offensive of his own. Using armor and crack S. S. troops, he struck against the weakest held sections of our line, catching us off balance. The German offensive gained about 25 miles on a 30-mile front before it was halted by the combined efforts of the U. S. 1st and 3d Armies, aided by the British and Canadians.

1945

January 1945—Having contained the German drive, the slow and costly job of wiping out the enemy's gains and straightening our lines was begun. The Germans were forced to withdraw and our air forces gave them no mercy, smashing thousands of enemy tanks and vehicles.

Meanwhile, on Jan. 10, the Red Army opened an offensive which it announced was intended to end the war. During (Continued on Page 4)

McGuire V-E Plans Set Far in Advance

Thorough preparations for observance of V-E Day were completed at McGuire many weeks in advance of today's announcement that hostilities had ceased in the European Theater.

Prepared in final draft by Lieutenant Robert T. Morrison and approved by Colonel P. E. Duggins, advance activities included formulation of an overall plan to insure observance of victory over the Nazis without delaying fulfillment of McGuire's mission.

Detailed care was shown in the plan to provide religious observance as well as entertainment for patients and personnel confined to the post, while guaranteeing that the hospital's daily schedule of caring for patients would not be interrupted by disorganized celebration.

Similar plans have been prepared at other posts, camps and stations to conform with local conditions.

The McGuire plan was necessary to cover all possible times at which the cessation of hostilities might be announced.

Other details of the over-all program included the augmentation of the civilian guard by assignment of enlisted personnel, doubling of the officer detail by assigning the alternate Administrative, Surgical and Medical Officers of the Day to duty, arrangements for entertainment through the Special Services Office and the Red Cross, erection of the public address system where needed, and publication of this extra edition of the BANNER by the Public Relations Office.

ASF Commander Cites Huge Task Ahead in Pacific

A "formidable task" lies ahead of the U. S. Army in the Orient, Lieutenant General Brehon Somervell, Commanding General of the Army Service Forces, warned today as the nation applauded the end of the war in Europe.

"The task ahead of our army in the Pacific is a tremendous one," General Somervell said in a statement issued to military and civilian personnel of the ASF.

"The size and capacity of the Japanese army, its geographical location, the great distances separating the Japanese citadel from the United States and U. S. Possessions, the ability of the Japanese manpower and economy to support an all-out military effort, indicate that the full resources and ingenuity of the Army Service Forces will be required for the support of the operations against the Japanese," he declared.

They Look to McGuire



"HELLO, AMERICA," shout patients arriving on a hospital train, happy despite their wounds. The above photo was taken July 29, 1944, when McGuire received from the European Theater its first group of wounded combat veterans. They came home confident that they were members of a winning army. Now McGuire looks ahead to receiving larger numbers of veterans from the Pacific, where the war continues in all its bloody fury.

JAPAN'S DOOM SEALED

Yanks, Russians, British Squeeze Berlin

(Continued from page 3)

its first weeks, the offensive rolled ahead with unprecedented speed. Warsaw, Lodz, Cracow, Poznan, and other Polish cities speedily fell. The main force of the Red Army, under Marshal Zukhov reached the Oder river, only 30 miles from Berlin.

Other forces to the south, under Marshal Konev, encircled the Silesian capital of Breslau, quickly overran that rich industrial area, crossed the Oder on a wide front and formed a junction with Marshal Zukhov's men. A 3d Soviet Army, under Marshal Rokossovsky converged on the Baltic port of Danzig. Then, while the main Red Army forces paused to bring up supplies and fresh troops to mount the final assault on Berlin, units to the south drove through Hungary and into Austria to forestall a German attempt to hole up in the mountains of southern Germany for a last ditch stand after the fall of the German capital.

Feb.-Mar. 1945—On the Western Front, a final appraisal of the battle of the Belgian bulge resulted in announcement of an official Allied victory. Although our losses of men and materiel were high, the Germans' were higher, and were more crippling because of the enemy's dwindled resources. Marshal von Rundstedt's offensive failed in its purpose, which was to split the Allied armies in the west and seize the important supply port of Antwerp. The Allied armies resumed their advance through the Siegfried fortifications, inflicting heavy damage on the enemy in fulfillment of Gen. Eisen-

hower's announced purpose of destroying as many German troops as possible west of the Rhine. Early in March, the U.S. 1st Army reached the Rhine. Units of the 9th Armored Division, finding a bridge at Remagen intact, sped across it to establish a bridgehead. Despite repeated German efforts to knock the bridge out, it was kept open for 10 days before it collapsed. Meanwhile, additional pontoon bridges were constructed and tanks and infantry poured across the river. But the main effort was not to come here. On March 23, the Rhine was crossed in great strength by the British 2nd, Canadian 1st, American 9th and 1st Airborne Armies. Meanwhile, to the south, Gen. Patton's 3d Army and Gen. Patch's 7th Army, working a squeeze play, won one of the war's greatest victories in the Saar basin, second only to the Ruhr as an industrial center, destroying practically all German forces there.

As seven Allied armies drove through the heart of Germany, a powerful Red Army column on April 21 smashed its way into the city of Berlin. Within a few days, Allied units in the west formed a junction with the Red Army, and the world awaited word from General Eisenhower that Nazi power had fallen. (CNS).

Defeat of Nazis Will Not Break Morale of Japs --- Major Grindlay

Even though the position of the Japanese may seem utterly hopeless—as today when German militarism has collapsed and the war in Europe is at end—"It must not be expected that the morale of the Jap soldier will break."

For that take the word of Major John H. Grindley, assistant chief of surgical services at McGuire and a veteran of many months campaigning in the China-Burma-India theater.

Major Grindley had many opportunities to see the results of the cruelty and barbarity of the Jap fighting man. He was with General Stilwell in the CBI when the Japs were advancing ruthlessly against opposition pitifully weak. He gave medical treatment to many of those wounded. He knows what he's talking about.

The major said he was convinced the final elimination of Germany from the current conflict would do much to speed the defeat of Japan, but that even "under the best of circumstances our losses will be heavy."

"I don't want to be a pessimist," the major said, "but this war is a long way from being finished. There's a lot of wishful thinking which makes me wonder whether the American people understand what's still ahead."

"I'm not a military expert, but after being over there even I can see that we'll need to increase the scope and magnitude of our operations tremendously in order to drive home the preponderance of force necessary to assure the complete defeat of Japan."

"The Japanese soldier is a fanatic who will fight to the end or commit suicide rather than face what he feels to be the disgrace of capture," Major Grindley declared. "He's no superman, but is capable of long, sustained effort and desperate fierce fighting."

"The Japanese knows now that he is on the defensive, but he is determined to make the war so costly that we will give up before



MAJOR GRINDLAY applies anesthesia before performing an operation in a surgical tent somewhere in Burma.

the job is done. He maintains an intense nationalism and fanatical desire to serve his God-Emperor."

Major Grindley pointed out that in the past, experience has shown the Japanese to be armed poorly in comparison with the equipment of our forces.

"The Japs have based their military doctrine on accentuation of what they term 'sieshin,' or spirit of the warrior," he explained. "They have tended to over-emphasize the ability of the man and have somewhat neglected proper development of supporting material."

"Nevertheless, the Japs are sufficiently well armed and equipped to give a good account of themselves in battle, especially when favored by the terrain. The morale and fighting spirit of the Japanese soldier have been so high as to greatly compensate for what he may lack in heavy equipment."

The same fatalistic attitude which characterizes the Jap soldier is apparent among the people on the Nipponese homefront, the major said. The Japanese have been taught that their Emperor is descended di-

rectly from the God-founder of the Japanese nation and that their land has never lost and will never lose a war.

"The present national crisis is pictured as a testing period for the Japanese people, who are told they can expect deliverance by their Gods only if they sacrifice to their utmost and remain fully determined to fight to the bitter end," he said.

"The Japanese government and people must be expected to mobilize all available Japanese resources, both human and material, for a desperate last ditch defense of their homeland."

McGUIRE BANNER

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Commanding Officer

LT. HOWARD B. LEEDS, QMC
Public Relations Officer

Cpl. Bernard Asbel
Editor

V-E Day Message From the Chaplain

Day of Victory! Day of triumph! German cruelty and oppression has been halted. But the war is not ended. Japanese tyranny must still be crushed. However, the long and bitter struggle in Germany comes to an end. Untold suffering and sacrifice have been the price of victory. Our soldiers and those on the home front as well, have faced this terrible war with courage and determination. A moral obligation rested upon the strong nations to release the oppressed and set the prisoners free.

The struggle has been exceedingly hard and prolonged. But at least this dire threat to civilization has been defeated. For this we are profoundly grateful. But the war is not over! This is no time to lessen our endeavor by dissipation. Every ounce of strength, every available dollar, every bit of determination, every effort on the home front, every thrust on the battlefield, needs to be directed toward Japan.

This day calls for a thoughtful retrospect. Our hearts are heavy because of those who have suffered so much. They call us to a new devotion to the cause of peace.

The call of the hour is to prayer. Prayer of forgiveness for ourselves and for our country. The prayer of praise and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for all His goodness to us, for His mercy and providence. For the way He has led us through the years to national strength and for the privilege of using that strength in behalf of those who have been oppressed.

Let us pray and work for peace. Let us pray for our country, that righteousness and justice may always be the bulwarks of our national life. Let us pray for the peace of the world and for courage to do our utmost to bring it to pass. Let us pray.

CHAPLAIN O. D. SWANK.